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Father admits incest, rape

AUSTRIA Josef Fritzl, 73, the Austrian man who fathered seven children with a daughter he held in a cellar for 24 years pleaded guilty to incest yesterday but denied murdering their newborn son and enslaving her.

REUTERS
COVERAGE, PAGE 5

Celebrity Buzz pg 14



Aniston seeks Bond action

Your Money pg 8

Checking for extra charges

Health pg 11



Vogels opens door on taboo

Riding the **Recession**

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Entertainment
• How musicians and labels are experiencing a musical meltdown during the recession, pg 12

Tomorrow
• The effect the economy is having on music venues and touring artists.



St. Paddy's Day **Sláinte!**



D'Arcy McGee's staffer Roberta O'Neill and general manager Jeff O'Reilly serve up pints of Guinness to celebrate St. Patrick's Day today. Staff at the Sparks Street pub are gearing up for one of the busiest days of the year. Story, pg 3

All aboard for Ottawa light rail

City sends out \$610M invites

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

Tickets for Ottawa's light rail money train have been sent out and if the federal and provincial government want to hop aboard it's going to cost them around \$610 million each.

Yesterday, Mayor Larry O'Brien officially asked Federal Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities Minister John Baird and his provincial counterparts, George Smitherman and Jim Bradley, to confirm their support for the first phase of the city's \$3.2-billion rapid transit network.

The cost of the \$1.83 billion first phase, which includes the downtown tunnel, tracks from Blair Station to Tunney's Pasture and a major new transfer station at Algonquin College, is expected to be split three ways between the federal, provincial and city governments coming to \$610 million each.

Sending the letters is only the beginning of formally securing funds to build the project.

The city still needs to develop the business cases and other paperwork required to make application for the federal government's Building Cana-

Expansion budget

- To cover its share, the city has budgeted \$2.1 billion for rapid transit expansion in its long-range financial plan. However, they will also consider other sources, like federal and provincial gas taxes, development charges, and future allocations from the capital budget.

da Fund and other suitable funding programs.

However, Transit Committee chairman Alex Cullen said the responses from both levels of government have been encouraging. The city is hoping to see memoranda of understanding covering the amounts and timing of contributions signed before the summer, he said.

"The idea is to get these agreements in place and then start the money rolling and then we can start building," Cullen said.

The city is in the process of conducting environmental assessments for the downtown tunnel. Once those are completed and the funds are secure, it will be a short step before they start digging.

ShareYourViews

ottawaletters@metronews.ca

Man facing charges for convenience store robbery

ARREST A 29-year-old Ottawa man appeared in court yesterday morning to face charges in connection with a robbery at a west-end convenience store that recently became infamous for its repeated holdups.

Ottawa police arrested a suspect shortly after midnight following a short foot chase of a man believed to have robbed the Food Frenz convenience store at 2910 Carling Ave. at knifepoint. This was the sixth time

Food Frenz has been robbed since Feb. 7. In response, police have been using many resources and strategies to prevent and apprehend individuals attempting these activities at this location. These strategies will contin-

ue despite this recent arrest.

The Ottawa Police Robbery Unit has confirmed that it appears that the individual is responsible for only one robbery at this location. Edward Grosse is facing

numerous charges including, robbery, assault with a weapon, possession of a weapon, and breach of probation. Grosse is also wanted on outstanding arrest warrants from British Columbia and Ontario.

METRO OTTAWA



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OC Transpo can save you money over March break

Just in time for March break, visitors to the Canada Agriculture Museum, Canada Aviation Museum and Canada Science and Technology Museum can receive a free admission with the purchase of one paid admission when they present a valid OC Transpo transit pass or transfer. **METRO OTTAWA**

Local



Spring cleaning for the community

There is a winter's worth of trash out there, and the city is asking for residents' help in cleaning it up. Last year, 70,000 volunteers completed more than 1,200 registered cleanup and graffiti-removal projects and collected 116,000 kilograms of litter during the Spring Cleaning the Capital Campaign. Registration for this year's campaign, running from April 15 to May 15, is now open. Residents of all ages are invited to select a cleanup location and sign up online at ottawa.ca/clean or call 3-1-1. **METRO OTTAWA**

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

While much of Ottawa's large Irish population is out celebrating today, St. Patrick's Day is a good day to get out, no matter what your roots are, a spokeswoman for the Irish Society of the National Capital Region said yesterday.

"It's more than Guinness and beer — it's an impor-

tant day to celebrate Irish culture," said Jennifer O'Brien-Tomka of St. Patrick's Day. "And here in Ottawa, people get to experience all facets of Irish culture."

Certainly, the Irish bars will be full today.

"We're going to be packed," said D'Arcy McGee's general manager Jeff O'Reilly.

Next to Canada Day, St. Patrick's Day is the busiest day of the year for the

"It's more than Guinness and beer — it's an important day to celebrate Irish culture. And here in Ottawa, people get to experience all facets of Irish culture."

Jennifer O'Brien-Tomka

Sparks Street pub.

Even with the recession this year, O'Reilly doesn't think it will make a difference.

"I think people might skip a Monday lunch, but

celebrating St. Patrick's Day is something that people look forward to, and save up for."

O'Shea's Market Ireland has also seen more customers in preparation for

St. Pat's.

"It's a lot busier in here," said staff member Meaghan Reddy.

People have been snapping up trinkets, T-shirts, Guinness products and rugby sweaters over the last little while.

Reddy said St. Patrick's Day is "an extremely popular" event in Ottawa.

"And it's not just for people of Irish descent," she said.

Celebrating doesn't nec-

essarily mean going to a pub, said O'Brien-Tomka.

The first annual Irish Week features several events today, including the screening of two films at the Mayfair Theatre; the St. Patrick's Day mass at St. Patrick's Basilica on Nepean Street at 10:30 a.m.; and an evening of Irish music and dance during Irish Night at the National Irish Canadian Cultural Centre — which is the former St. Brigid's Church — at 7:30 p.m.

Scheduling issue goes to arbitrator

TRANSIT After meeting yesterday regarding the latest scheduling conflict at OC Transpo, representatives from the city and the Amalgamated Transit Union will be meeting with an arbitrator again today.

The latest scheduling issue flared up again last week when the ATU accused OC Transpo management of attempting to enforce federal work-rest regulations on drivers before the federal government had ruled on the issue.

The number of hours that drivers were allowed to work in one day and the amount of time they needed between each shift were the main sticking points during the city's 53-day transit strike. **METRO OTTAWA**

Last chance for uOttawa prof

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

A uOttawa professor with a history of clashing with the administration will get one last chance to reconcile this morning before almost certainly being fired.

After teaching at the university for 22 years, dismissal procedures were started against Prof. Denis Rancourt

"(Today) is the only chance I have to be heard. It's confidential. It's off the record."

physics pro-

fessor Denis Rancourt in December because he allegedly promised an A+ grade to every student attending one of his classes.

This morning, Rancourt said he would get his last opportunity to reconcile with University of Ottawa officials, before the tenure professor is possibly dismissed.

"That is the only chance I have to be heard. It's confidential. It's off the record," he said.

Although he believes there is a small possibility that some avenue for rec-

onciliation will be opened, he said the early indications are not promising.

Rancourt has publicly offered to allow university officials to dictate his grading system and course syllabus, which he said is an attempt to remove grading as grounds for dismissal.

While Rancourt is in his meeting, uOttawa students are planning a rally/townhall meeting to debate the merits of the grading system.

The rally organizers are mostly supportive of Rancourt, but Mireille Gervais, a graduate student in law, said they are hoping for both sides of the grading issue to be presented.

The University of Ottawa declined to comment on this issue due to the "confidentiality and legal obligations in this matter" according to media relations officer Julie Tan-guay.

ShareYourViews

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metronews.ca
What's online today?

Video Mourners crowd a small town church for the first funeral held for Newfoundland chopper crash victims at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs Hollywood Rants brings news of the MacGyver movie we were all waiting for and Kenya Hunt spots "reality-based" fashion in Paris.



Lotteries **KENO** **FML**
Ontario Pick 3: 7 1 5; Ontario Pick 4: 9 6 3 2
Encore: 683286
Daily Keno: 2, 3, 7, 8, 14, 17, 23, 28, 33, 35
37, 42, 47, 48, 53, 55, 59, 64, 67, 68
These results are not official.

DRIVING A 45-year-old Chelsea man faces multiple charges after a police pursuit in Gatineau Sunday. At 2:29 a.m., a Gatineau police officer attempted to stop a vehicle on Eardley

Road in Aylmer after he suspected the driver was under the influence.

When the police officer activated the lights, the car didn't stop, Gatineau police Const. Isabelle Poirier said yesterday.



Juno award-winning singer Serena Ryder, left, signs an autograph for six-year-old Willa Marshall after performing a special concert for the Children's Miracle Network Champions at the Bronson Centre last night.

Miracle kids get special treat

ANDREW SZTEIN
for Metro Ottawa

Twelve champions from across the country converged in Ottawa yesterday to be honoured.

They might only be children, but are champions nonetheless — kids who have persevered through various diseases and benefitted from the Children's Miracle Network.

The charity has gathered the children and their families for a trip around the Ottawa region that includes a tour of Parliament Hill, an Ottawa Senators

Network

• The network raises money for more than 170 children's hospitals, 14 of which are in Canada.

practice, and a private Serena Ryder concert. Afterwards, the families will board a plane to Florida to spend several days at Walt Disney World.

"We're here to celebrate the miracles in healthcare that these kids and champions have undergone," said John Hartman, the chief international officer

for the charity.

Among the dozen champions gathered at the luncheon was 14-year-old Ottawa native Dionne Simone Farquharson, who was born with craniofacial abnormalities that caused blindness in her right eye, a cleft palate, and facial bone structure abnormalities. Last year, she was also diagnosed with acute meningitis.

"The doctors and nurses helped me a lot," said Farquharson. "I needed help breathing, which the CHEO doctors have helped me with." Her doctors hope for a full recovery.

Chelsea man arrested and charged after high-speed chase

Road in Aylmer after he suspected the driver was under the influence.

When the police officer activated the lights, the car didn't stop, Gatineau police Const. Isabelle Poirier said yesterday.

The car, which had been travelling at about 100 km/h in a 70 zone, lost control on Boulders Road, struck a post and rolled over. The driver got out of the vehicle himself. He suffered minor injuries and

was taken to hospital.

The suspect now faces charges of fleeing police, driving under the influence, dangerous driving and refusing to give a breath sample.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

News in brief

CRASH Four people, including a five-year-old boy, suffered injuries after two pickup trucks crashed in the intersection of West Hunt Club Road and Moodie Drive at 10:52 a.m. yesterday.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

A fish that made a stir last year with an apparent mutation that critics of Alberta's oilsands industry blamed on pollution was not mutated at all, a scientist said yesterday. The goldeye had a stiffened tongue, not two jaws, as was first suspected, said a University of Alberta professor. **REUTERS**

Canada



Polar bear meeting

The world's largest land-based carnivore, the polar bear, is under threat from climate change and hunting, reporters were told ahead of the first meeting since 1981 that brings together states that are home to polar bears — Canada, Norway, Russia, the United States and Danish-administered Greenland.

REUTERS

Conservatives slide in latest poll

The federal Conservative party remains in first place in voter support nationally, at 35 per cent, a new poll has found, but its support is down three percentage points since the end of January, and almost as much since the October 2008 election.

A Toronto Star/Angus Reid online survey finds

Dead heat in Ontario

- If a federal election were held tomorrow, 39 per cent of respondents in Ontario would

cast their ballots for the Liberals and 38 per cent would vote for the Conservatives.

support for the Liberal party has increased two percentage points since the end of January to 31 per cent nationally, more than

five points higher than its 26.2 per cent share of the vote in the election.

Tory support stood at 38 per cent in January and

37.6 per cent in the Oct. 14 election.

The NDP stands at 16 per cent nationally, down two percentage points since the end of January and about the same since the election, when it received 18.2 per cent of the votes. The Greens come in at seven per cent, similar to their election result of

6.8 per cent.

Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff are statistically tied when respondents were asked who would make the best prime minister. Harper was the choice for 26 per cent of respondents while 24 per cent chose Ignatieff.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tories can bypass green assessments

STIMULUS The federal government has given itself the power to decide whether infrastructure projects aimed at stimulating the economy are subject to environmental assessment, a top minister said yesterday.

The move is aimed at streamlining approvals for \$12 million of public spending being planned

to kick-start the country's flagging economy, Environment Minister Jim Prentice said.

Word of the policy, which also involves delegating some assessment decisions to the provinces, had already angered environmental groups. It comes into force immediately.

REUTERS

Toronto Tamil protest



Tamil demonstrator Surendran Mahendran protests against the political turmoil in Sri Lanka, yesterday on a downtown street in Toronto. The protest was expected to draw tens of thousands of people. The Ontario capital is home to roughly 250,000 Tamils, the largest population outside of Sri Lanka.

Halifax bus driver suspended for clubbing toy seal

PAUL MCLEOD
Metro Canada

DISCIPLINE A Halifax bus driver has been relieved of his duties pending an investigation after running out of his bus Saturday afternoon to club a fake baby seal in front of stunned protesters.

Metro Transit general manager Pat Soanes held a press conference yesterday in Halifax and called the incident "unacceptable" and said the man is no longer allowed to operate a bus. He will be on paid leave until his final punishment is determined.

According to a passenger on the bus, the driver had been joking about how bus drivers were getting a bad rap recently. Moments later he drove by a seal hunt protest. According to the witness, the driver then allegedly remarked, "oh, there are the animal lovers," and asked a rider he was chatting with, "Should I? Should I?"

The witness says the driver stopped the bus, ran across the street and began clubbing a fake baby seal with a baton as baffled protesters looked on. The driver then returned to the bus and continued his route.

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Free funeral idea dies after media frenzy

A New York funeral director hoping to barter a free funeral for construction work on his patio was forced to scrap the idea due to the media frenzy that followed. Peter Dohanich, 51, posted an ad for the exchange on the online classified site Craigslist last week. **REUTERS**

World



Sex toy sales flaccid: Vendors

Sales in the French erotic industry have fallen as the global economic crisis has driven consumers to reduce their spending on sex toys, massage oils and other kinky products, sector specialists say. At Big Eropolis, an erotic fair near Paris, attendance was healthy but stall owners said customers were not spending as much as in previous years.

REUTERS

Obama calls for AIG bonus block

BAILOUT U.S. President Barack Obama told Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner to take all legal measures to block hefty bonuses awarded to employees of AIG, the insurance company that received up to \$180 billion US in bailout money, a White House adviser said yesterday.

"The president told Secretary Geithner ... to take every legal means that he has to push back against this, to figure out who put this in the contracts and when, and to make sure this doesn't happen again," Austan Goolsbee told the media yesterday.

REUTERS

Man admits incest, rape

Austrian who held daughter in cellar denies murdering baby

An Austrian man who fathered seven children with a daughter he held in a cellar for 24 years pleaded guilty to incest yesterday but denied murdering their newborn son and enslaving her.

Wearing a mismatched grey suit, Josef Fritzl, 73, entered court in St. Poelten, near Vienna, flanked by six policemen and concealing his face behind a blue loose-leaf binder.

He later lowered the folder and with his back to the gallery spoke softly,

Prison time

- If convicted of murder, Fritzl could receive a life sentence or up to 15 years in prison.
- Defence lawyer Rudolf Mayer said Fritzl expected to spend the rest of his life locked up, probably in a mental institution.

sometimes mumbling, in response to questions about personal details and his plea. Fritzl looked straight ahead or at his lawyer, not at the jury or

prosecutor.

Prosecutors accused Fritzl of raping his daughter in front of captive children. They said Fritzl, who faces life in prison if convicted, was responsible for the death of a twin who died shortly after being born in the cellar in 1996.

They said this was murder by neglect because Fritzl failed to seek help for the baby, whose body he burnt in a furnace.

Prompted by the judge several times, Fritzl pleaded "partially" guilty to rape

and said he was guilty of depriving the children who were kept underground of their liberty.

Austrian law differentiates between the severity of rapes and levels of coercion, and takes into account the degree of violence used and the consequences for the victim.

Fritzl's lawyer will clarify which part of the rape charges he denies during the closed-door part of the trial this week, said court spokesperson Franz Cutka.

REUTERS

Charges possible for gunman's father

GERMANY Prosecutors may charge the father of a German teenager who went on a killing rampage last week with involuntary manslaughter for leaving the murder weapon unlocked in his bedroom despite knowing his son was depressed.

Seventeen-year-old Tim Kretschmer used his father's Beretta pistol to kill 12 students and teachers at his former school and three other people last Wednesday, before shooting himself dead when he was cornered by police.

Prosecutors in Stuttgart said yesterday they had launched an investigation

Gun collector

- Gunman Tim Kretschmer's father, a member of a shooting club, had 15 guns at home. Fourteen of those were locked in a gun closet as required by law but police have said the Beretta was left unlocked in the father's bedroom.

into the father's role in the crime after establishing that he was probably aware of his son's fragile mental state. Police have added that Kretschmer was treated for depression.

REUTERS

Iran Remembering war



Women stand next to an anti-aircraft gun during their visit to a war memorial site near the Iraqi border, southwest of Tehran in Khoozestan province yesterday. Iranians visit the main battlegrounds during the last week of the Iranian calendar to remember martyrs who died in the Iran-Iraq war from 1980-1988.

Morteza Nikoubazl/REUTERS

News in brief

CYBERCRIME A Nigerian undergraduate has been sentenced to 19 years in prison for obtaining \$47,000 US from an Australian woman by convincing her over the Internet that he was 57 years old, white, and madly in love with her.

COURTS U.S. prosecutors want swindler Bernard Madoff and his wife, Ruth, to forfeit more than \$100 million US worth of homes, cars, boats, securities, silverware and a piano following his March 12 guilty plea, according to court papers.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Tories helping media shift

National Report



Lawrence Martin

metronews.ca/nationalreport

It's CBC bashing time again. The government, while doling out cash to every interest group imaginable, is cutting back on funding for the public broadcaster. Our media, which is largely conservative, is bashing the CBC for being biased, while ignoring their own bias. Online posters are berating the public net for being either too lowbrow or too highbrow or too Toronto. Many would like to see it killed off.

Meanwhile, the other networks, the private ones, aren't doing too well either. CanWest Global, from which a lot of the criticism of the CBC em-

anates, is staggering under a mammoth debt load. It will be lucky to survive. CTV has been posting huge losses.

In these woeful media times we have three wobbly networks. Critics can find myriad faults at each. They can find political bias, they can find pitiful programming, they can find no shortage of dumb management decisions.

But being the public enterprise, the CBC gets the wrath and what is dismaying, as one online poster put it, is that so many "would advocate the demise of the CBC and see Canada become a third-rate American satellite when it comes to entertainment, culture and identity."



The private commercial networks, by definition, cater to base tastes. They'll put out whatever schlock attracts audiences and advertisers. Public broadcasters, which, in most countries, get far more government dollars than the CBC, are needed for obvious reasons — a counterweight to dumbing down being one of them.

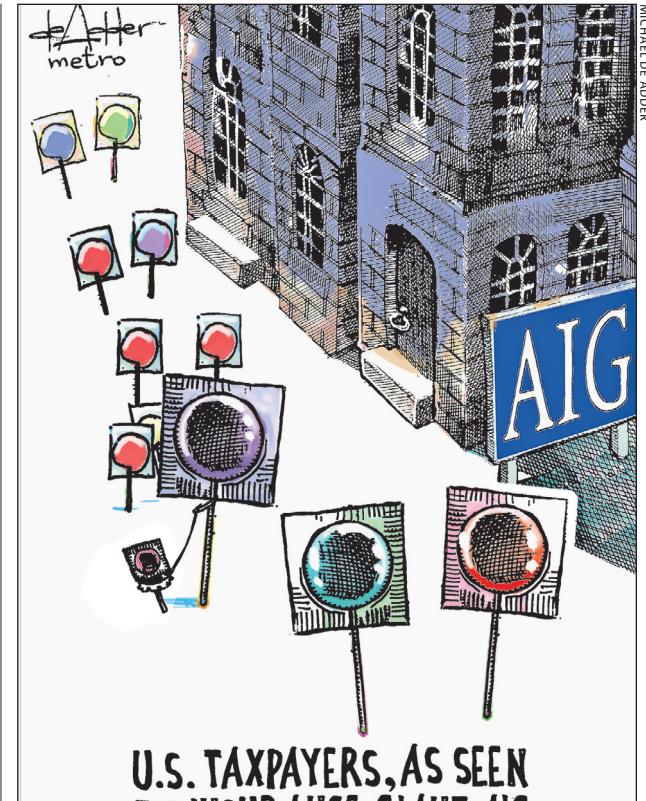
Much criticism of the CBC is justified, including its importation of American programming. But a political agenda figures behind many of the attacks as well.

The right, notwithstanding the drubbing its ideology has taken in recent times, has gained the upper hand in the Canadian media. The two

large newspaper chains, CanWest and the Sun chain, are conservative. One national newspaper, The Globe and Mail, is centrist, while the other, The National Post, is conservative. The national magazine, Maclean's, is run by a conservative. CTV and Global are hardly liberal. AM radio tends to be dominated by right-wing talk jocks.

The Canadian political culture is of the moderate centre, traditionally a bit centre-left. But the media culture has moved to the right of the political culture. Conservatives want to move it further in that direction. To diminish the weight of the CBC and gain even more media influence is in their interests. Whether it is in the interests of the country is another story.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.



U.S. TAXPAYERS, AS SEEN BY INSURANCE GIANT AIG

Quote of the Day

"How do they justify this outrage to the taxpayers who are keeping the company afloat? ... (we will) pursue every legal avenue to block these bonuses."

— U.S. President Barack Obama, who instructed Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner to block the \$165 million in bonuses insurance giant American International Group granted its executives with bailout money.

REUTERS

Views

Business writing lacks vital nutrients

InBusiness



Charles Davies

Warren Buffett may not be God, but he's about the closest thing we have to an economic Moses, and if he starts throwing tablets around, people pay attention.

So when he happened to mention in a recent interview that the economy had "fallen off a cliff" all hell broke loose in the stock market. That his remarks coincided with a World Bank report predicting a global contraction only abetted the heavy selling.

A Bloomberg news article that reported Buffett's remarks threw in other ex-

perts' comments about "very volatile markets" and the fact that "uncertainty reigns."

A companion piece quoted University of California, Berkeley economic Prof. Barry Eichengreen saying that "we are tracking 1929-30," while Moody's chief economist Mark Zandi noted, "This (economy) is going to scar the collective psyche." Kind of makes you want to look out the window to catch an apocalyptic dust storm.

These are parlous times, and even Buffett has fallen prey to business journalism's increasing sensationalism and its regular failure to provide sufficient context.

For every thoughtful voice like The New Yorker's James Surowiecki, there are multiple blusterers like CNBC's Jim Cramer, who generate

more noise than intelligent content. Like the markets and industries it covers, the business press has become evermore focused on the short rather than the long term. Too many journalists covering business stories lack sufficient expertise. And whatever the medium, the messenger too often fails to ask the right questions, skims the surface of events, and presents information mainly for dramatic effect. The headline from a late-February Globe and Mail interview with historian Niall Ferguson about his dismal financial predictions captures the style: "There will be blood."

Well, business news, like any other form, is supposed to be punchy and gripping, otherwise who would care? But these days, consumers of information really need depth

and perspective. To get it, they need to consult as many sources as possible, and preferably those with an established record of informed comment. I'm talking the likes of The Economist or The Financial Times as opposed to a business blog. And by all means, read stories all the way through. Several paragraphs after noting the economy was over the edge, Buffett also observed that financial institutions shouldn't be so highly leveraged in the future, that Americans should wean themselves off excessive debt, and that, yes, there will be a recovery, likely with inflationary consequences. Reasonable conclusions all.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer and editor who has worked for news organizations and publications including Business Week, Canadian Business, Report On Business magazine, Reuters, and Financial Post.

Letters

OC Transpo not doing all it can to make up for strike

Re: OC Transpo discount

OC Transpo should have discounted passes for everyone. We were all inconvenienced by the strike with no retribution. I am sure you know that a strong portion of OC Transpo passes are used by students, yet almost everywhere I go the student bus pass is sold out.

As a university student, I

rely heavily on the Ottawa transit. I do not have the available funds to be able to afford to pay twice in one month, especially after the strike. I had to cancel shifts at work because I could not afford to always take a taxi.

I feel that the OC Transpo is not doing all it can to make up for the two-month long inconvenience it caused myself and other Ottawans.

ALAN MORGAN, OTTAWA

Metro Online Poll Results

36%
SAID YES

Would you carry a driver's licence that included a radio chip?
Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

74%
SAID NO

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Rogers to name Mohamed next CEO: Report

Rogers Communications Inc. has decided to name Nadir Mohamed chief executive officer, the Globe and Mail reported. The decision, which has been finalized internally, could possibly be made public in a week or two, the paper said. **REUTERS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Industry, wealth on decline

Manufacturing slows while household wealth falls 4.4%

Canadian industries ran at a slower rate than predicted and household wealth suffered its biggest drop on record in the last quarter of 2008, according to the latest in a string of gloomy data showing the depth of the economy's downturn.

The capacity utilization rate — the ratio of an industry's actual output to its potential output — hit a record low of 74.7 per cent in the last quarter, pulled down by weak domestic and foreign demand for manufactured goods, Sta-

"Our net worth is not shrinking as fast as the U.S. net worth ... but it means less wealth this year for Canadians."

Sal Guatieri, BMO Capital Markets economist

tistics Canada said yesterday.

The rate was worse than the 75.3 per cent predicted by analysts, who have often been too optimistic when forecasting how badly the economic crisis is affecting Canada.

Separately yesterday, StatsCan said Canadian net household worth dropped

by a record 4.4 per cent to \$165,300 in the fourth quarter of 2008, pushed down by the sharp decline in stock market prices.

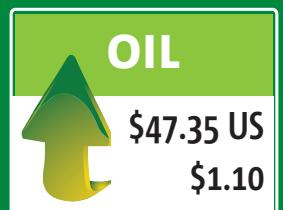
It was also noted that the decline was not as severe as in the United States, where household net worth fell by nine per cent in the fourth quarter.

"Our net worth is not

shrinking as fast as the U.S. net worth, largely because our house prices are not falling as fast as U.S. prices ... but it means less wealth this year for Canadians," said Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets.

The reports come after the government agency said on Friday that Canada lost 82,300 jobs, 30,000 more than expected, adding to evidence that the economy's slide may be more severe than many had thought.

REUTERS



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U.S. Boosting small businesses



LARRY DOWNING/REUTERS

U.S. President Barack Obama speaks next to U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner while they meet with small-business owners and community lenders in the White House yesterday. Obama moved to boost U.S. job creation by making it easier for owners to borrow money and by spending up to \$15 billion US to ensure credit is available for small-business loans.

Stocks still rallying on bank optimism

MARKETS Optimism over a semblance of stability in banking shares lifted stocks around the world for a fifth straight session yesterday, and took the wind out of a safety bid that had been driving gold, bonds and the dollar.

The euro hit a five-week high against the U.S. currency, while U.S. and euro zone government debt prices fell and gold slipped more than one per cent as the worldwide equity rally diminished the appeal of safe-haven assets. **REUTERS**

Home resales rise but prices drop

HOUSING Sales of existing homes in Canada rose in February from January, the first month-on-month rise since September, but prices dropped sharply, the Canadian Real Estate Association said yesterday.

Nationally, 28,669 homes were sold in February, up 8.6 per cent from the month before on a seasonally adjusted basis.

But the average home price fell 9.2 per cent to \$281,972 from \$310,379 a year earlier.

On a year-over-year basis, sales were down 31 per cent in February. That was the smallest year-over-year decline since October, the association said.

The figures are a mildly positive sign that the property market is stabilizing,

said Douglas Porter, deputy chief economist at BMO Capital Markets.

CREA said historically low mortgage rates and improved affordability helped create interest last month, though supply remains high. It said the economic uncertainty may keep buyers in a "cautious mood."

REUTERS

Business in brief

DISPUTE Intel Corp. accused Advanced Micro Devices Inc. of breaching the terms of a cross-licensing agreement between

the two rival chip makers, a charge that AMD denied yesterday. Intel alleged its rival ran afoul of a 2001 patent agree-

ment when it created the GlobalFoundries joint venture, the semiconductor manufacturer spun off from AMD. **REUTERS**

Enbridge to sell stake in pipeline

ENERGY Enbridge Inc. said yesterday it has agreed to sell its stake in a Colombian oil pipeline for \$400 million US, raising cash to fund a big expansion of its North American pipeline network.

Enbridge said it expects net after-tax proceeds of \$535 million from the sale of its 24.7 per cent stake in the OCENSA pipeline to Colombia's Ecopetrol.

REUTERS

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Your Money

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA



Make the move, deduct expenses

MoneyMatters



Q Last March, my family and I moved so I could begin a new job. Because of the recession, the new job did not last more than four months. I have been on Employment Insurance since and only secured another job in January. What expenses can I deduct and how much? — Liam

A The recession has firmly taken its toll in Canada. The unemployment rate in Canada has risen to a record 7.7 per cent. Ontario has been hit hard in particular, with a full percentage point greater than the national average.

Individuals who move at least 40 kilometres closer to a new workplace or business in Canada may qualify to deduct moving expenses. Full-time students who attend university or college in Canada or abroad may also qualify. Some eligible expenses you can deduct include costs associated with buying

or selling a home, travel, moving and storage, cancelling a lease, etc. Keep your receipts.

You may deduct eligible moving expenses from income at your new employment, but cannot use them against employment insurance and other income. However, unused amounts can be used in the following year to reduce other employment income. Don't lose out on deductions — speak to your tax adviser or visit CRA's website for a full list of expenses.

Q I was unable to sell my previous house when I moved to accept a new position. I carried the old residence for more than three months before selling. Is this amount deductible? What if I took a loss on the home? — Alwin

A Good news. Yes, you can deduct cost such as property taxes, interest, utilities, etc., for the previous home. Bad news: Not more than \$5,000. The loss on your home, unfortunately cannot be deducted.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, provides professional accounting and taxation solutions: choochonghcg@yahoo.ca.

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Note: Please check bank websites as some rates require a minimum account balance.

Spring cleaning: Trim back those messy bills

Locate and eradicate extra charges and billing errors

Smart Cookies



Three-quarters of Canadians aged 18 to 29 review their banking or other financial statements monthly, according to a recent survey put out by the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada.

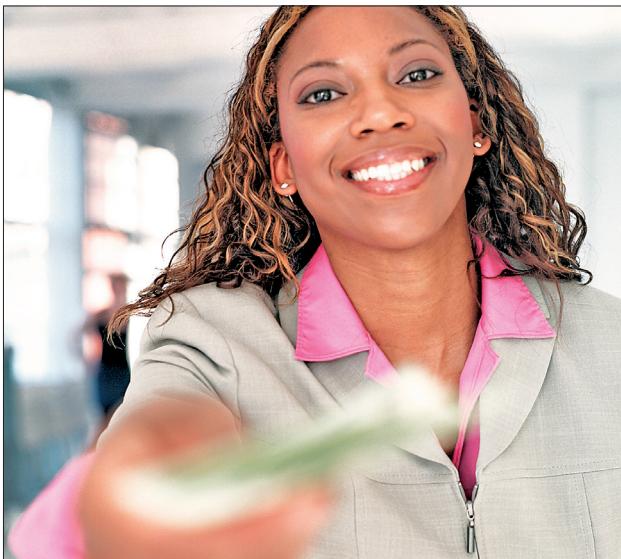
Those who do not review their statements each month gave a number of reasons why — among them the fact that they were just "too lazy."

Laziness and lack of interest when it comes to your bills could be costing you hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars every year.

Make it a must to look at every monthly bill, whether paper or electronic, even you just have a quick scan.

After doing this in the early days of our money group, one of the Smart Cookies realized she was paying a monthly fee for what was essentially credit card insurance. You too might have been sold on this type of insurance when you first received your card.

This type of insurance is



If you don't scrutinize your bills, you could be giving money away every month. A few dollars here and there can add up.

designed to protect you from outstanding credit card debt in the event of job loss, disability, critical illness or death.

Now, some people may certainly benefit from this type of insurance. Our Cookie, however, certainly did not.

What's worse, she realized that over the years she had actually paid out just under \$2,000 for this service. Had she not scrutinized her bills, she would still be giving this money away every month.

Phone bills are also notorious for having mistakes. Whether it's double charg-

ing for text messaging, charging for services that should be free, or calls you didn't make, a once-over will usually result in your finding an extra charge. And yes, you might look and say it's only a few dollars here and there, but all those little charges add up.

Customer service reps aren't going to call to tell you you're paying too much, but they will usually be helpful if you make the call and ask the questions.

Almost everyone has online banking these days. It's a quick and easy way to review your bills. And for the bills that come in to you

through mail, it's important to have a designated spot for these documents.

Pre-money group, one of the Smart Cookies kept her bills in the microwave — seriously.

Now, she has a little tote box with her own filing system to store all of her bills and financial documents. It's so easy to set up and saves her time and money.

However, try not to stuff away bills that you are going to get to in the future. Often the only time you'll remember you did this was when you receive the overdue notice in the mail!

Visit the forum at smartcookies.com for more on creative ways to cut your bills. Questions for the Smart Cookies can be emailed to smartcookies@metronews.ca.

Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

Investing

Allan Small



What will turn the market from bear to bull? Find out at metronews.ca/investing

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World Series MVP Hamels leaves camp to be examined

Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Cole Hamels has left spring training to have his pitching elbow examined.

Team doctors do not believe the tightness in his left arm is serious. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Madness big bucks for CBS

NCAA Not since the Summer Olympics has Internet video had the kind of game-changing opportunity that will come its way beginning this week with March Madness On Demand, CBS' online home for the NCAA men's basketball tournament. But if CBS Sports can continue the momentum it has experienced in recent years, it will do more than just further establish the Internet as a go-to place for premium content. Any lingering doubts about the staggering 11-year, \$6 billion US deal CBS signed to keep March Madness in 1999 have eroded as the value of what seemed then an afterthought — new-media rights — are putting a whole new layer of worth on the franchise. Sure, CBS has projected a \$30 million haul from this year's online offering, but it's not so much the current numbers as the possibility for further growth, whether through this year's addition of Microsoft Silverlight as a video player delivering better quality or an iPhone tie-in that will bring games to mobile. **REUTERS**

For a printable NCAA March Madness bracket, visit metronews.ca/sports

Sports in brief

NFL The Denver Broncos confirmed yesterday that quarterback Jay Cutler has asked for a trade. Cutler failed to show up for new coach Josh McDaniels' first team meeting yesterday, and is still upset that the Broncos tried to trade him for quarterback Matt Cassel last month.

NHL A record performance by Martin Brodeur has earned the New Jersey Devils goaltender the NHL's first star of the week. Brodeur tied Patrick Roy as the league's all-time victories leader and helped the Devils post a 3-0-0 record with a 1.67 goals-against average and .943 save percentage. Olli Jokinen of the Calgary Flames and Sidney Crosby of the Penguins were named second and third stars. Brodeur can break Patrick Roy's NHL career record for wins tonight against Chicago.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Campbell gets the kids going

RAF BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Olympic gold medalist and celebrated hockey personality Cassie Campbell wants to make sure the next generation of kids gets the same opportunities to play sports she did.

The big-hearted star, famous for captaining the Canadian women's hockey team to gold medal wins in the 2002 and 2006 Winter Olympics, was in Toronto recently to raise money for organized sports programs for kids.

Campbell hit the ice with kids including the girls' hockey team from a local school to conduct a hockey skills clinic and kick off fundraising for

Canadian Tire JumpStart, a program which raises money to allow kids in financial need an opportunity to participate in organized sports.

For Campbell, giving kids an equal opportunity to excel in sports is something she strongly believes in.

"This program is exciting for me on a personal level. I can't imagine not having been able to play sports growing up and it's a shame for a child to not have that chance," Campbell said.

At the fundraiser event, kids shared the ice with Campbell to practice their stick-handling and skating skills and Campbell later signed autographs for everyone.

Dan Thompson, presi-



Grandi retires again

Veteran Canadian skier Thomas Grandi retired from ski racing for the second time in two years yesterday. The 36-year-old from Canmore, Alta., announced that he will not continue racing to the 2010 Vancouver Games, just over eight months after saying it was the Olympics that had brought him out of retirement.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ten-year-old Michael Wood takes a shot as Cassie Campbell looks on in Toronto recently.

kids learn how to work together as a basis for life skills — that's the real value of the program," Thompson said.

Karyn Percival-Berry, a brand leader at Energizer which helps sponsor the program, says the company got involved because too many kids have to miss out on sports due to financial reasons.

"We want to allow kids to have an opportunity they may not have been able to have otherwise," Percival said.

Seeing more girls hit the ice is rewarding for Campbell.

"When I was starting out we didn't have high school programs for girls. Now the sport has just grown so much. It's exciting," she said.

dent of the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families which created the program, says the ultimate goal of JumpStart is to use sports like hockey to teach

kids how to be successful in life while staying healthy.

"Physical activity should be a staple for every young child. With team sports,

NBA Raptors fall prey



Pops Mensah-Bonsu of the Toronto Raptors is caught between Sean May and Cartier Martin of the Bobcats in Charlotte last night. There was no lucky green for Toronto, as they were hammered 112-86.

SCOREBOARD

NHL**YESTERDAY'S RESULTS**

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Nashville at Los Angeles

TODAY'S GAMESBuffalo at **OTTAWA**

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Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Soluble: Your other fibre friend

Those who struggle with genetically high cholesterol need both types

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

Brenda Strong is a long-time vegetarian and yoga instructor (an actress too — she is Mary-Alice Young on Desperate Housewives). Given her healthy lifestyle, Strong was shocked when a checkup revealed elevated cholesterol levels.

"My doctor told me to cut out red meat and start exercising, but I was already on top of all that," she says.

Turns out a fibre supplement was the solution to Strong's health dilemma. In 30 days of regular use, her cholesterol readings dropped significantly. But why? Because the supplement is a source of psyllium, a soluble fibre.



Yup. Soluble.

A survey by Metamucil and Ipsos Reid suggests that 96 per cent of Canadians know that fibre is part of a healthy diet — but only 49 per cent know exactly what and how much fibre they need. Most people think they

"My doctor told me to cut out red meat and start exercising, but I was already on top of all that."

Brenda Strong, actress, vegetarian and yoga instructor

need bran and maybe some broccoli. Few, however, including those like Strong who struggle with genetically high cholesterol, know we need two types of fibre: insoluble and soluble.

"Insoluble is bulk or roughage. Largely indigestible, it ushers food through the intestinal tract efficiently and quickly," says Jennifer Grochocinski, a doctor of naturopathic medicine at Continuum Wellness in Toronto, and Meridian Wellness in Richmond Hill. "Soluble

fibre has all the blood-sugar and cholesterol-lowering properties," she says. "Combined with water it forms a gel, which helps slow digestion, so you feel fuller longer, and

lower cholesterol in two ways: 1) It grabs cholesterol that is released into your digestive tract with your bile and

helps to transport it from your body through your bowel movements, and 2) one of the short chain fatty acids produced from the fermentation tells the liver to decrease the amount of cholesterol it produces."

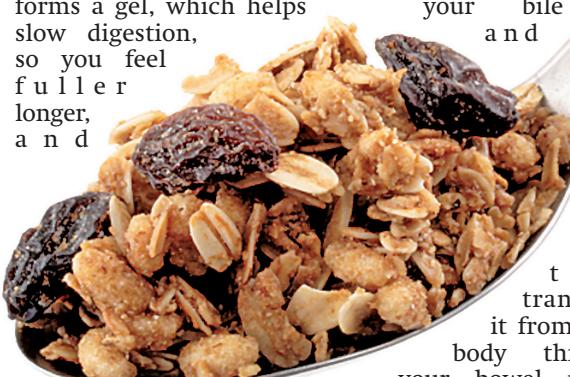
Simply put, soluble fibre does all the complex work; insoluble fibre keeps things moving along efficiently. "Insoluble fibre prevents waste and toxins from sitting in your system

too long," adds Grochocinski. "You don't want the body to absorb that stuff."

We find insoluble fibre in whole grains, cereals, vegetables and the skins of certain fruit; while soluble fibre comes from strawberries, citrus fruit, apples, legumes, flax, oats, barley and beans. Together, the two fibres can prevent high cholesterol.

Unless we want to bloat or get gassy, we need to up intake slowly and drink two litres of water per day (try herbal or green tea if water doesn't appeal).

ISTOCKPHOTO



gives your system time to absorb nutrients."

Soluble fibre ferments, which promotes the growth of healthy bacteria that further improves digestion. "Fermentation also produces short-chain fatty acids which the intestine cells absorb to keep them healthy," explains Grochocinski. "It helps

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Customer Testimonial - I have been using ReCleanse for the past 6 months and have felt rejuvenated with energy!
H.Wilson - Kelowna BC



Supplements

• Do we need fibre supplements such as Metamucil or Benefiber? "If you're dealing with a medical condition, you need something with a therapeutic dosage higher than you can get through a good diet," says Jennifer Grochocinski, a doctor of naturopathic medicine at Continuum Wellness in Toronto. "But most of the time, I just have patients add a tablespoon or two of freshly ground flax seed to their diet — cheap and effective."



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Customer Testimonial - I'd heard about Morning Rise & Shine from a friend who said it gave her that needed edge so I tried it and now it's a part of my morning ritual!
G. Solomon - Winnipeg MB

Created by
RoseMarie Pierce, B.Sc.Pharm,
Holistic Pharmacist
RoseMarie is a highly
respected lecturer, writer,
and media personality within
the natural health industry.



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JANINE FALCON/
FOR METRO
CANADA

Photograph your food diary

If you're a visual person, this could be the food diary for you. Use your cellphone to snap pictures of your food choices and then send them to nutrax.com, which tracks your diet. It brings a whole new meaning to saying "Cheese!" **BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE**

Taking periods out of the closet

The J Spot

Josey Vogels

metronews.ca/thejspot

Every woman I know has her "first-period" story. I remember coming home from school the day I got mine. I was a bit of a tomboy and everyone in our "group" expected me to get it last.

My best friend Kelli got it first, no surprise, she already had boobs and hips in grade seven. I told my Mom after supper, while doing the dishes. "Guess what happened to me today," I said, brimming with the excitement of proof that I really was a girl after all. "I got my period!"

"I don't get mine, anymore." After her eighth kid (me) her doctor had insisted on a hysterectomy. "You'll have to talk to your sister."

"Oh," I replied, that sinking feeling creeping right down into my now apparently fertile loins; I suddenly didn't feel so smug about my stained underwear.

My sister handed me a super-monster-jumbo tampon and left the room. I managed to get it in about

halfway and spent the night uncomfortably shifting my butt around wondering what I'd been so excited about.

In the recently released My Little Red Book, 18-year-old editor Rachel Kauder Nalebuff compiles 92 short stories by women about their first period.

It's about time our "little friend," "Aunt Flo" or whatever favourite euphemistic name you were taught to give your period came out of the closet.

"It's about time our 'little friend,' 'Aunt Flo' or whatever favourite euphemistic name you were taught to give your period came out of the closet."

We may have come a little way from the days of viewing menstruating women as unclean or ill and the belief that menstrual blood was dangerous, unlucky and dirty.

But I don't know how many times my moods or reactions have been written off because "it must be that time of the month" or how many times, when I'm really experiencing "that time of the month" in a bad way, I have been made to feel like I've got a convenient excuse.

I wish we'd learn to celebrate menarche, as some cultures do. A friend of mine's 10-year-old has decided she wants to have a "period party." She's already working on the guest list. I like that.

One last gripe. Who came up with the term "feminine

protection" anyway? No doubt, the same people who come up with the brand names. Satin Touch? I mean, really, it makes having your period sound almost orgasmic. And the selection has become mind-boggling.

Faced with a wall of wings, super-absorbency, day-time, night-time, heavy-flow, light-flow, unbleached, biodegradable, mini, maxi, super-maxi, super-expensive "feminine protection," it's enough to make you want to cry. Then again, it could just be PMS.

(Note to readers: Last week, I wrote that The Bachelor Jason changed his mind six months after agreeing to marry Melissa. It was actually six weeks.)



While we've come a long way from the days of viewing menstruation as dangerous and dirty, why do many of us still consider our periods a taboo topic, asks our columnist.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

March is Rosacea Awareness Month

SKIN March is Rosacea Awareness Month, a time to correct the myths on the skin condition that affects more than seven percent of Canadians.

Primarily affecting the face, rosacea usually begins as a redness or blush on the cheeks, forehead, chin and/or nose.

Though there is no known cause of rosacea, it can be effectively managed with medical treatment, proper skin care and lifestyle changes.

Some facts about rosacea:

- Rosacea affects men and women equally but it seems to be more common in women.

- Rosecea triggers include a variety of elements including stress, hot beverages, red wine, spicy food and severe temperatures.

- Celebrities with rosacea include Renée Zellweger, Ricky Gervais and Clint Eastwood.

For information on early detection, diagnosis and treatment of rosacea, visit rosacea.info.com.

SOURCE: SKINPATIENTALLIANCE.CA AND ROSACEAINFO.COM

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HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR SMILE IF WHITENING WILL NOT WORK

Did you ever notice how much better you feel when you smile? A smile can bring out so much positive energy and gives you the confidence to conquer the world.

One of the more popular treatments dentists are providing these days is **teeth whitening**. For people whose teeth have lost their lustre over time, this can be a wonderful option to get back that dazzling sparkle to a smile.

Unfortunately, **whitening will not work in all instances**. People with cracked, misshapen or chipped teeth, unsightly spaces, visible decay or tetracycline stains on their teeth will not fully benefit from whitening.

The good news is that **there other options**. One of them is **veneers**. Veneers are thin layers of porcelain or resin that are custom shaped to fit directly onto your existing tooth.

Veneers are usually applied only to the front teeth, as these are the most visible. They come in many different shades, so you can work with your dentist to choose a shade that best suits you. We recommend that you choose a shade that matches your existing teeth that will not be covered by veneers, as a dramatically



Dr. Martin LaBoissonnere
Dental Surgeon

different shade will be noticeable.

Application of the veneers is really quite simple. A thin layer of your existing teeth will be removed. This makes it easier for the veneer to bond to the tooth. Then, impressions will be taken so that the veneers can be designed to a precise fit for you.

Your dentist will install temporary veneers while a lab uses your impressions to create a custom fit veneer just for you. When you make your return visit, your new veneers can be installed and - voila - a new and beautiful smile is born!

And taking proper care of your veneers is as easy as... taking care of your own

teeth! That means regular brushing and flossing will be just as important as it is for teeth without veneers. You want to make sure you do this as failing to do so could result in decay to the underlying tooth.

Just like your natural tooth, father time can have an affect on your veneers. They can chip, crack or simply wear down and they may need to be replaced. However, properly installed, they can easily last ten years or longer on adult patients. Children or adolescents who are still growing may need to have their replaced sooner as the shape of their jaw and/or teeth may change as they grow.

Of course, regular visits to your dentist are also important to make sure ALL of your teeth are in good health.

So, if you think veneers might be the way for you to bring back the confidence that comes with a beautiful smile, talk to your dentist. We are certain you will be so thrilled with the results, you won't be able to stop smiling!

In the meantime, remember that confidence is a healthy habit...and healthier habits lead to healthier lives.

Dr. Martin LaBoissonnere
- Dental Surgeon

Two and a Half Men star Charlie Sheen and wife Brooke Mueller Sheen welcomed twin boys Saturday night. The children, named Max and Bob, are the first for the couple, who married in May 2008. PEOPLE.COM

Rescue Mission

Eonline.com is reporting that G.I. Joe star Channing Tatum may be rescuing pop star Rihanna in a new version of the Whitney Houston film *The Bodyguard*.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Music meltdown

Artists, labels feeling pinch of recession

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

"I'm feeling this depression," said Montreal and New York-based musician Martha Wainwright in December, before embarking on a Canadian tour.

"No one's buying records anymore; we'll have to go back to the life of a touring artist in the '30s, where they'd sleep upright on a school bus and go from town to town."

While Wainwright might be joking about the school bus, she's dead serious about the pain the recession is causing her, and the entire music industry in general. CD sales have been dropping for years now — Canadian physical sales declined 8.5 per cent in 2008 — but with more and more music fans tightening their belts, this economic down-

turn could spell the end of the traditional music industry as we know it.

"The recession will accelerate the demise of physical retail and it may increase peer-to-peer traffic," says New York-based analyst Aram Sinnreich. "File sharing is for people who have more time than money."

"Unfortunately, you'll see a lot more economic decisions as opposed to artistic decisions," adds Graham Stairs, vice-president of Toronto's Finkelstein Management.

That means many bands will be left in the lurch as major labels choose to go after the sure economic bet. Stairs says one way the big labels will try to stay afloat is by reissuing albums and encouraging their already successful bands to stick to their tried and true formulas.

Another way the majors

"You'll see a lot more economic decisions as opposed to artistic decisions."

Graham Stairs,
Finkelstein Management

will attempt to get the most bang for their bucks is by signing artists to "360 deals," a contract which gives the label a portion of CD and ticket sales, merchandise, and whatever else makes a band money.

The legacy businesses are going to have to reorganize around the new reality," says Sinnreich. "They'll focus on business-to-business models, converting legacy contracts to 360 deals coordinating between distribution, marketing, tech, and legal to a degree they haven't in the past."

Indie labels don't have the resources to sign artists



Musician Martha Wainwright is dead serious about the pain the recession is causing artists like her.

Riding the Recession

to multi-million deals, but what they do have is an entrepreneurial spirit that's key in any economic downturn. Stairs says many Canadian labels have had to be "mean and lean" in pre-recession days, so they're already prepared to operate on a thin budget.

Sinnreich agrees that indies are well positioned to survive a recession. "They're not stuck inside of a blockbuster economy, spending millions to make

millions," he says.

Still, indie bands and labels are suffering. Stairs says that he recently had a deal fall through for one of his artists after the U.S. label president told him, "I'm taking the deal off because of the economy."

In the U.K., Pinnacle, one

of the country's largest independent distributors, went out of business in December, which could force many British indie labels out of business.

"The new economic reality is certainly going to weed out the weaker indie labels who don't have a firm grasp on their business model," says Stairs, adding we might see more independent company's merge or engage in joint ventures with other, non-music, industries.

Tupac's mother files suit over film

MOVIES Tupac Shakur's mother is firing back at independent production company Morgan Creek over the right to make a biopic about the late rapper.

In a \$10 million US cross-complaint set to be filed yesterday morning, Afeni Shakur's Amaru Entertainment claims that Morgan Creek, CEO James Robinson and others tried to strong-arm a deal for Tupac movie rights, then sabotaged the project when Amaru attempted to set it up elsewhere. REUTERS

Madonna may adopt another Malawian child

Pop star Madonna has said she may adopt another child from the poor southern African country of Malawi despite the controversy surrounding an earlier adoption.

Critics accused the government of skirting laws that ban non-residents from adopting children in Malawi, which has been badly hit by the AIDS epidemic, after Madonna took on David Banda.

"Many people — especially our Malawian friends

"Many people ... say that David should have a Malawian brother or sister." Madonna

— say that David should have a Malawian brother or sister," she said in response to emailed questions from Malawi's the Nation newspaper.

"It's something I have been considering, but

would only do, if I had the support of the Malawian people and the Government."

A Malawian court approved the adoption of David last year.

Madonna has said the controversy had been difficult to deal with but she was happy to be involved in a case that might pave the way for more adoptions in Malawi. An estimated one million children in the country have been orphaned by AIDS.

Madonna, who began adoption proceedings in 2006, took David when he was 13-months-old after his father had placed him in an

orphanage following the death of his wife.

David is growing up in the high-flying life of a leading popstar, worlds away from his village of Lipunga, where Banda's relatives eat staple food like maize meal from simple bowls and meals are cooked on open fires.

REUTERS
GETTY IMAGES

CONSUMER KIDS
When children's wants become needs
SPECIAL SERIES TONIGHT

ctvottawa.ca

CTV NEWS
Weeknights 6:00

OTTAWA'S NEWS LEADER

Silver succumbs to cancer

Actor Ron Silver, who played a slick strategist on NBC's *The West Wing*, has died of cancer. The 62-year-old, who helped found non-profit advocacy group The Creative Coalition, died in his sleep early Sunday in New York City. USMAGAZINE.COM



Crowning the Next Great PM

Panel of former prime ministers will pick winner tomorrow night

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

The competition to be named Canada's Next Great Prime Minister has come down to the final four.

Alex Trebek will host a panel of former prime ministers Kim Campbell, Joe Clark, Paul Martin and Brian Mulroney on CBC TV tomorrow night.

Along with the studio audience, they will decide who is named winner: Calgary's Amy Robichaud, Toronto's David Suk, Montreal's Gabriel Bran Lopez or Robert Marsh of Dartmouth, N.S. The four survived a political boot camp of media scrums, debates and mock Canada-U.S. conflicts to earn a spot in the final.

"Boot camp was an amazing experience," said Robichaud, who's in her fourth year studying political science and public ad-

ministration at the University of Ottawa. "Brian Mulroney is a huge person — physically and intellectually. (The four) just exude leadership. It was intimidating, but also inspiring."

The 21-year-old loved the

pressure of the competition. "There's no more noble calling than to represent the interests of the people," Robichaud said. She wasn't put off by the rougher side of politics. "I admire those individuals who have dedicated their lives to being dragged through the mud on behalf of Canadians."

Suk, a masters student in public policy at the University of Toronto, described it as "a ton of fun."

The 23-year-old praised the passion and optimism of his competitors. "We would spend a lot of time getting to know each other and become good friends, but then go back to the room for a debate, and the gloves would come off."

He was surprised at the intensity of the process. "I tend have a pretty steady keel under pressure, but I will admit that in this competition, the pressure got to me. It was tough."



From left, former prime ministers Brian Mulroney and Kim Campbell, host Alex Trebek, and former prime ministers Joe Clark and Paul Martin.

On TV

- Canada's Next Great Prime Minister airs tomorrow night on CBC TV. Check local listings for times.

MacGyver to hit the big screen

TELEVISION It will take more than twine, bubble gum and a pencil to do it, but the science-oriented adventure series MacGyver is being developed as a feature film for New Line. MacGyver ran from 1985 to 1992 on ABC. Richard Dean Anderson, later of Stargate: Atlantis and SG-1 fame, starred as a secret agent who would escape from dangerous situations with lightning-quick engineering trickery.

REUTERS

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt



metronews.ca/globalstyle

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primetime

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/17/09	265 353	2	TVO	Undersea Exp.	Parks	The Agenda With Steve Paikin	The Fixer (Part 2 of 6)	Paradise Found: Islamic Art	Agenda-Paikin			
	211 331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS "Knockout" (N)	90210 (HDTV)	Project Runway Canada	News			
	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	La Facture	Provvidence (N) (SC)	René - Le Destin d'un chef	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou	La Zone			
	209 342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	(10:03) Without a Trace (N)	Comedy Now			
	196 311	7	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	American Idol (HDTV) Finalists compete. (Live)		Law & Order: SVU	News (N)			
	208 303	8	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Wild Roses (N) (DVS)	CBC News: The National	The Hour		
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Biggest Loser (N)		Law & Order: SVU	News (N)		
	117 713	10	TVA	Les Gags	Star Académie:	La Fière de la danse (SC)	La Promesse (HDTV) (N) (SC)	TVA 22 heures (10:45) Denis Lévesque				
	-	11	QS	Catherine (SC)	Pop Corn	Dirty Sexy Money (SC)	Men in Trees: leçons	Cent dix pour cent (SC)	Mr Showbiz			
	137 763	12	TFO	Panorama		Aux limites du corps	La Discreté ★★ (1990, Com. dramatique)		Nouv. mondes	Lascaux		
	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV)	NCIS "Knockout" (N)	The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)	(10:01) Without a Trace (N)	Two/Half Men			
	216 395	14	OMN2	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)	News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case	
	214 344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU	Privileged	Scrubs	Friends	Primetime: What Would	News (N)			
	115 343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)	Vivere II	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia	
	218 345	18	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	The Biggest Loser (N)		Dr. 90210	News (N)			
	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Dancing With the Stars	Dancing With the Stars	Primetime: What Would	News (N)		
	512 396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions	Heure polit.	L'Heure politique			Revue	Période-quest.		
	651 355	25	CTS	Happy Days	Laverne	Michael Corin Show	100 Huntley Street	Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee		
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	American Idol (HDTV) Finalists compete. (Live)	News (N)		News		
	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Snowtrails TV	Nova (HDTV) (DVS)	Frontline (DVS)	Absolutely Irish!	Charlie Rose			
	205 312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	American Idol (HDTV) Finalists compete. (Live)		Law & Order: SVU	News (N)			
	502 390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour	CBC News: The National	Homo Toxicus	National			
	500 500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)					
	406 417	27	net	Overtime	NHL Hockey Buffalo Sabres at Ottawa Senators. (HDTV) (Live)		Sportsnet Connected	Baseball				
	126 730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes	Grands reportages (SC)	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal			
	400 280	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Tampa Bay Lightning. (HDTV) (Live)		NHL Hockey: Stars at Canucks					
	410 403	52	SCR	Cabby Unlimit	Mar. Madness	College Basketball: NCAA Tourn. Opening Rd.		Score Tonight	Hockey Talk			
	411 457	56	OLN	Dog the Bounty Hunter	Survivorman	Mantracker	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman			
	417 406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Low Life	Super Bikes!	Hot Import	Hot Import	Pimp My Ride		
	554 544	48	TEL	Total Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	American Dad	Moral Orel	
	557 540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551 542	65	YTV	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach	Mystery Hnt.	
	570 580	29	MM	mmttop	Where You At	Popaganda	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Listed	
	615 520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	The First 48 (HDTV)	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 Cabdriver.	Manhunters			
	628 584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Ultimate Knockouts 4	DEA "Drug Dealing Deli" (N)	Real Vice				
	521 560	34	TLC	Kids by the Dozen	17 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	18 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	Toddlers & Tiaras (N)	17 Kids-Count		
	145 761	35	TV5	Change	Caméra café	Pekin express: la route des Incas "Rio de Janeiro-Tiradentes"	Facteur	D'Est en Ouest	Journal TV5			
	616 521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits	Mutant X	Testees	Trailer Park	The L Word "Last Word"	House			
	620 523	40	BVO	Live at the Rehearsal Hall	To Dublin With Love	Celtic Tenors Live in Concert Irish trio.		Irish Music	Law & Order			
	520 505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)	How It's Made	How It's Made	Destroyed	Time Warp (N)	Combat School (N)	Daily Planet		
	575 583	43	CMT	Cross Canada Countdown	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Hollywood	
	601 562	45	SLC	Skin Deep	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	ET Canada		
	625 548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Flt-Conchords	Daily Show	
	294 529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Star Trek: Insurrection ★★ (1998, Science Fiction)		Fresh Prince	Seinfeld	Family Guy		
	600 564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Pure Design	Style	Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Colin & Justin's Home Heist	Holmes-Homes	
	627 528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)	Star Trek: Voyager	Torchwood "Sleeper"		(10:05) Destination Truth (N)	Stargate SG-1			
	581 566	53	MTV	Room Raiders	After	MTV News	Play'd	From G's to Gents		MTV Live		
	618 524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Tube Tales	Tube Tales	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Married... With	Seinfeld	
	522 506	55	HIS	NCIS "See No Evil"	Sandhogs		Crime Stories	NCIS "See No Evil"		Sea Hunters		
	129 773	60	CD	Biographies "Claudia Schiffer"	Docu-D		Images-chocs	Criminels		Mayday		
	261 394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote	Chambers	On the Buses	Quantum Leap	I Prophecy	Supernatural	Poltergeist		
	602 567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	How to Look Good Naked	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked	Maxed Out		
	269 350	70	APTN	Wings-Canada	Storytellers	Wapos Bay	Cashing In	Fish Out	Mixed Blessing	Caution: Nuts	Rabbit Fall	Moccasin Flats
	621 527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)	TMZ (N)	etalk	Living the Life	Look-A-Like	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	TMZ		
	603 561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover	The F Word	Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef Am.		



Liz Hurley's marriage is under strain, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The model-and-actress' husband Arun Nayar — whom she wed two years ago — is reportedly frustrated with her refusal to compromise on any joint decisions. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Spellings wage book battle

PEOPLE Tori Spelling and her mother, Candy Spelling, are at it again.

The famously feuding pair are reportedly taking their fight to the publishing world, as both have book projects set to come out in the coming weeks.

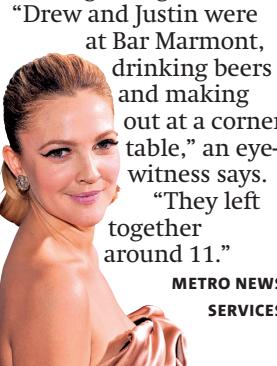
A source tells the New York Post that St. Martin's Press moved the release of Candy's Stories from Candyland book up from April 14 to March 31. "They made that decision after getting wind that the publication date for Tori's book was moved to April 14," the source says.



Drew, Justin play tonsil hockey?

RELATIONSHIP Drew Barrymore and her on-again, off-again beau, Justin Long, may very well be on again.

"The He's Just Not That Into You co-stars were spotted playing tonsil hockey over the weekend at a Hollywood hotspot, according to Page Six.



Whitney breaks it off with Jay

PEOPLE The City's Whitney Port and her reality show boyfriend, Jay Lyon, have called it quits, a friend of Port's reveals to In Touch.

"They broke up (last) Monday," said the friend. "Whitney did it over the phone, she was basically just not happy for a while and decided she really wanted to end it. Jay said they should talk things over, but it seems her mind is made up."

The couple agreed to take a break while Jay toured with his band Taramara.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Britney on short leash

PEOPLE Britney Spears has been ordered to read the Bible for an hour a day, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Womanizer singer's father Jamie — who as co-conservator of her estate has full control of Spear's affairs — has issued the star with a string of rules to ensure she doesn't go off the rails on her The Circus Starring Britney Spears tour.

A source said: "Jamie is determined nothing can go wrong with Britney's comeback. He's making sure she reads the Bible for at least an hour during her quiet time before she goes on stage and has

banned her from using the Internet. He is even monitoring what she eats by insisting on none of her beloved junk food on the rider.

"He's stopping her from leaving her hotel unless accompanied by a security guard and even though she

gets on much better with her ex-husband, Kevin Federline, she isn't allowed to speak to

him without Jamie or her manager there."

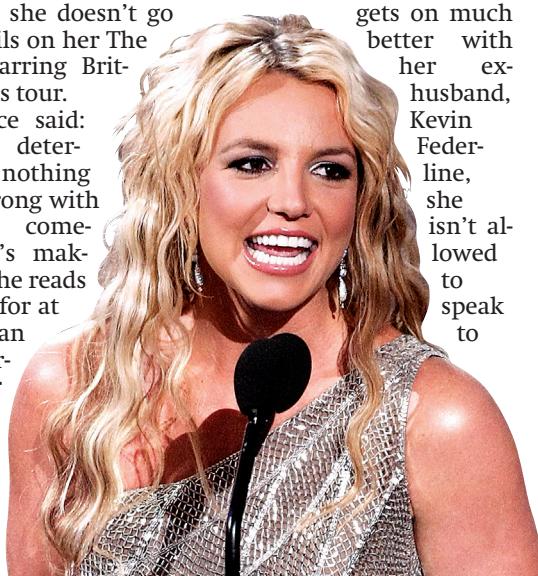
Despite Jamie's strict orders, it seems as if his daughter — who was hospitalized last year following a breakdown — has already found a way to flout his rules.

Fans at her show in New York last week were stunned to see the toned torso she had showed off on the opening night of her tour in Louisiana has already disappeared.

Despite her energetic dance routine, the 27-year-old star had a roll of fat hanging over her skimpy belly-dancer costume as she performed Me Against The Music.

One fan said: "Britney moves around loads on stage but she's clearly carrying extra weight — perhaps someone should think about altering her costumes."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Jen the next Bond girl?

CAREER Jennifer Aniston is being considered for a role in the next James Bond film, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 40-year-old actress — who recently expressed an interest in appearing in the British spy film franchise — is set to be offered a screen test for the follow up to Quantum of Solace, which will star Daniel Craig as James Bond.

A source at EON, the production company which makes the James Bond films, said: "Jennifer has all the qualities we are looking for in a Bond girl. She has to be beautiful but she also needs to have brains.

"It helps if she's athletic and able to keep up with intense stunt work a Bond movie demands," the source added. "It is likely she'll be called in to meet producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson soon."

Aniston previously said of her Bond aspirations: "I get offered funny, quirky, pretty roles. But I'd love to do an action movie."

James Bond — glamour. Daniel Craig. S—t loads of fun."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Hot pants put GaGa in hot water

PEOPLE Lady GaGa is in trouble with police over her skimpy outfits, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Just Dance singer — who is famous for her outrageous and revealing ensembles — keeps getting stopped by officers who believe her flesh-flashing clothes could offend mem-

bers of the public.

The blond beauty was recently stopped in Chicago while she was wearing a pair of tiny hotpants, the website says.

The singer explained: "I guess they weren't really pants at all. But it

was really funny because all you saw was this half-naked girl on the street yelling at some cop, 'It's fashion! I'm an artist!' It was fun."

The pop star — who used to work as a burlesque dancer — likes to show off her body because it makes her feel sexier.

She said: "It's not that I don't like pants, I just choose not to wear them some days. I think no-pants is sexy. I love the naked human body. I was working in strip clubs when I was 18."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lindsay off the hook

LEGAL An arrest warrant for actress Lindsay Lohan was quashed Monday after a Beverly Hills judge ruled she had not violated her probation for a 2007 drunken driving conviction.

The \$50,000 warrant was issued by the Beverly Hills Superior Court late Friday but Lohan's lawyer said over the weekend it stemmed from a misunderstanding.

Lohan, 22, spent 84 minutes behind bars in November 2007 for a drunken driving and cocaine

possession conviction after two arrests earlier that year.

The Mean Girls and Freaky Friday actress was also ordered to enroll in an alcohol education program.

Lohan's lawyer submitted proof of the actress's compliance with the order at yesterday's brief hearing and the Beverly Hills Superior Court quashed the arrest warrant.

Lohan did not attend yesterday's hearing.



REUTERS

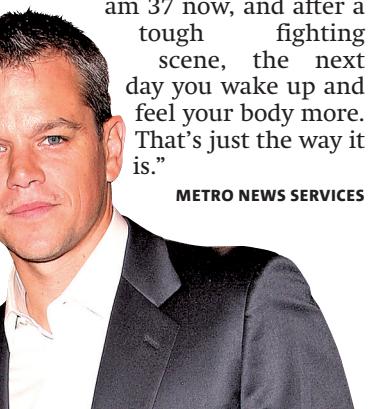
Growing old hard on the body: Matt

PEOPLE Matt Damon struggles to cope with filming action scenes now that he is getting older, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actor says he hopes to shoot a fourth movie in the Bourne series, but admits he find it harder to recover from filming physical stunts.

He said: "We're working on Bourne 4. This time it would be from an original script rather than a book by Robert Ludlum."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



But the director, Paul Greengrass, is busy and I am too, so we'll see what happens.

"When I did the first movie, I was 29 years old. I am 37 now, and after a tough fighting scene, the next day you wake up and feel your body more. That's just the way it is."

Gisele brings Tom home

PEOPLE Gisele Bundchen brought husband Tom Brady home to visit her family over the weekend, usmagazine.com reports.

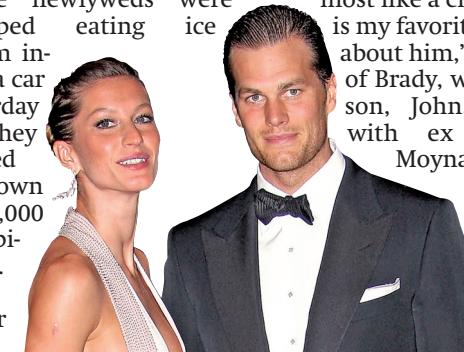
The two were photographed in the supermodel's Brazilian hometown of Horizontina. Local newspaper Zero Hora reported that they were there for her grandfather's 83rd birthday.

The newlyweds were snapped eating ice cream inside a car Saturday as they toured the town of 18,000 inhabitants. The paper

also reports that Brady, 31, worked out at a local gym.

As Usmagazine.com first reported, the two tied the knot Feb. 26 at the Catholic Church in Santa Monica, Calif. The usually private Bundchen, 28, tells April's Harper's Bazaar that her husband is "a good guy."

"He has a very pure heart. He's very naive, almost like a child. That is my favorite quality about him," she says of Brady, who has a son, John, 1 1/2, with ex Bridget Moynahan.



METRO NEWS SERVICES



Today
Mainly sunny
9° / 4°



Wednesday
Rain
9° / -1°



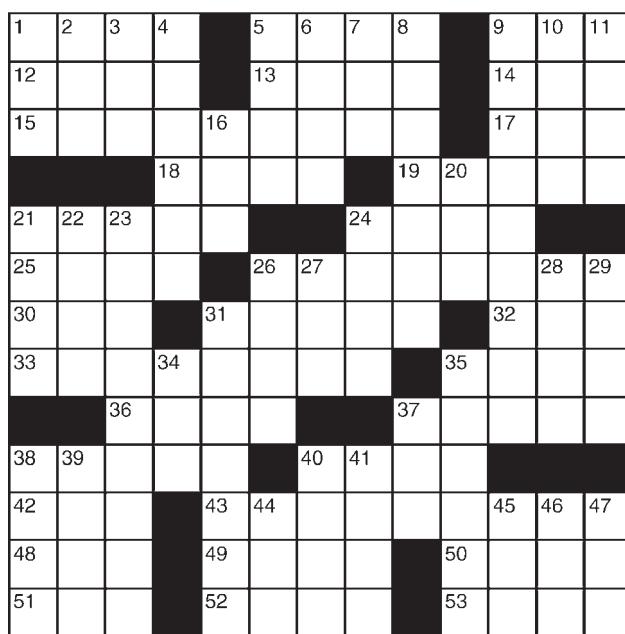
Thursday
Partly cloudy
8° / -8°



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For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Crossword across

1 River through Kazakhstan
5 Early birds?
9 Turf
12 Creche trio
13 Ship-building wood
14 Before
15 Without flexibility
17 Moving truck
18 Lingerie items
19 Fisher or Richardson
21 Intolerant one
24 "Death in Venice" author
25 Responsibility
26 Appeased
30 Schuss
31 Neaten eyebrows

Crossword down

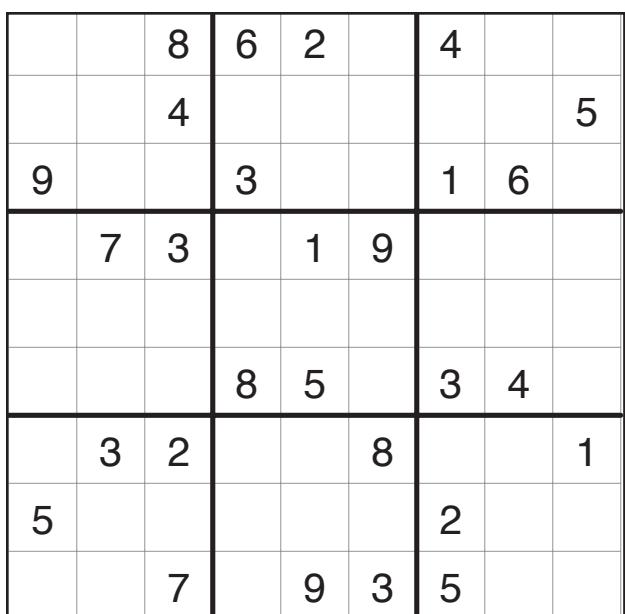
1 Actress Thurman
2 "Awesome, dude!"
3 Khan title
4 Bellies up to the bar?
5 Sicilian spouter
6 Obtains
7 Cowgirl, maybe
8 Seize an airplane
9 Girls' magazine
10 Exam format
11 Say it ain't so
16 Illustrations
20 — budget
21 Employer
22 Black
23 Camelot female
24 Spiked club

26 Trudge
27 Abner's old radio partner
28 "Zounds!"
29 Dresses in
31 Bump a TV episode
34 Colouring agent
35 Emissary
37 Auction action
38 Biography
39 Estrada or Satie
40 Read cursorily
41 Magic stick
44 Pub order
45 Tend the lawn
46 A Gershwin brother
47 Massachusetts cape

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

A	W	E	S	■	C	U	B	■	D	U	S	T
■	E	A	H	O	R	S	E	■	O	S	L	O
P	E	R	U	V	I	A	N	■	R	E	A	M
T	U	B	■	■	S	L	E	D	G	E	■	■
A	L	B	U	M	■	S	H	A	M	■	■	■
C	O	O	P	■	S	H	A	V	I	A	N	■
E	L	L	A	L	O	H	A	■	L	E	■	■
L	A	T	V	I	A	N	■	C	A	S	K	■
S	E	C	T	■	■	T	A	S	T	E	■	■
A	M	P	E	R	■	F	O	■	T	■	■	■
R	I	O	T	■	D	I	L	U	V	I	A	N
I	L	L	S	■	U	N	I	T	E	D	L	Y
A	L	O	E	■	P	A	P	■	D	A	L	E

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min Genius
13-17 min Scholar

3	4	8	6	7	2	1	9	5
5	2	9	3	4	1	7	8	6
1	7	6	8	9	5	4	2	3
8	9	5	4	2	3	6	1	7
7	6	4	1	8	9	5	3	2
2	1	3	7	5	6	9	4	8
4	5	1	2	6	8	3	7	9
6	8	7	9	3	4	2	5	1
9	3	2	5	1	7	8	6	4

17-21 min Smart
21-25 min Not bad
25+ min Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Balsamic Baked Tomatoes and Parmesan Crumbs

INGREDIENTS:

4 large tomatoes
1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
2 slices whole-wheat bread
3 tbsp (45 ml) parmesan cheese
1 tsp (5 ml) olive oil
1/3 cup (75 ml) balsamic vinegar
2 tbsp (25 ml) light brown sugar
2 tbsp (25 ml) water

METHOD:

- Preheat the oven to 400°F (200°C). Core tomatoes and cut in half horizontally. Place tomatoes, cut-side up, in ceramic or glass baking dish large enough to hold them in a single layer. Sprinkle tomato halves with salt.
- Place bread in food

processor and pulse to fine crumbs. Combine crumbs, Parmesan and oil in small bowl. Sprinkle tomatoes with crumb mixture.

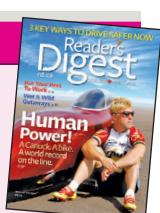
3. Bake, uncovered, until topping begins to brown and tomatoes are heated through, about 25 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, combine balsamic vinegar, brown sugar and water in small skillet. Bring to boil over high heat and cook until syrupy, about 3 minutes. Drizzle over baked tomatoes.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Don't give in to anyone's pleading. A brat pretends that all is well. You can trust a daring truth-teller.



TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

Grab a new opportunity as soon as it's presented. Open the door to a happy-go-lucky person. Get the most for your money when shopping.



GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Avoid self-indulgence or suffer the consequences. Tell someone that words can be weapons. Excitement happens in a relationship.



CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

Nothing will happen regarding a decision. Poor digestion interferes with sleep. A trusted friend decides to let work wait.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

A hard-hearted employer just won't get it. A swindler makes demands about money. A lazy girl's careless words lead to grief.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22

A hard-worker has a chance to improve circumstances. Friends are accused of not listening. Conquest of weakness comes after delusion.



SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 21

An energetic man grabs the reins of power. Serious entertainment won't appeal to you. Try to deter the mastermind of a crisis.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

A refusal to socialize seems scandalous. You'll get busy at a crucial time. There'll be joy when a decision is made.



CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20

A happy couple gossips about their intentions. Someone criticizes your dismissal of a suggestion. Little is accomplished if you rant and rave.



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18

It might be an exhilarating day.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

Unleash the force of your visionary aptitude. Fascinate someone with your astonishing tales.



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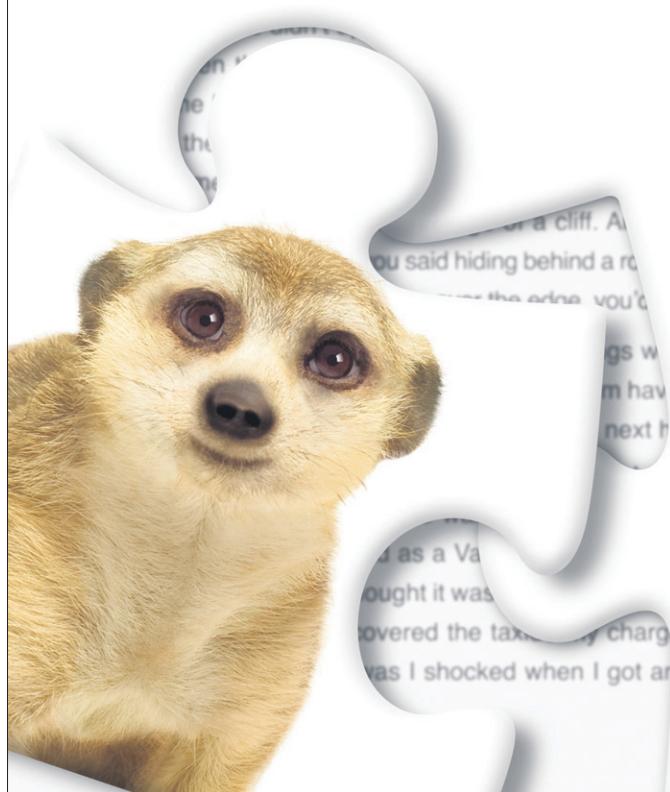
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